

NEW YORK  
A Compleat  
NARRATIVE  
OF THE  
TRYAL  
OF

Elizabeth Lillyman.

Found Guilty of *Petty Treason*;

AND

Condemned at the Sessions at the Old Bayly  
the 10th. of this Instant *July*.

To be Burned to Death,  
For the Barbarous and Bloody Murther  
of *William Lillyman* her late Husband.

With Her

Confession and Penitent Behaviour, since  
such her Condemnation.

*With Allowance.*

**S**he desired leave to say something to the people, which being granted her, she began in a low voice as followeth.

Good people you are come to see the sad end of a miserable woman. I have been a scandalous liver ever since I was fifteen years old, and now God almighty has taken this time to punish me for all my wickedness; I cannot but acknowledge the murder of my dear Husband, though I must needs say. I never intended it, but did it in my passion, and it is well known among my Neighbours how dearly I loved him, I pray God I may be an example to you all, and that though I suffer this cruel Death here, I may be delivered from the pains of hell fire for ever.

And after some private prayer by the Minister, she kneeled down her self and pray'd very earnestly, which much affected the standers by, and after went cheerfully to the Stake where she suffer'd.



A True and Perfect Relation of  
the Tryal, Condemnation, and  
Confession of *Elizabeth Lilly-*  
*man, &c.*

**W** Hereas several Imperfect Relations  
and hearsay Reports may have been  
spread abroad concerning this un-  
happy woman, and that Barbarous  
and wicked Fact by her committed, in Murdering  
her Husband: for the full discovery of the Truth  
thereof in all Circumstances, 'tis thought convenient to  
publish this compleat and Impartial Narrarive and  
Account of the same.

**T** His womans dwelling was lately, and for  
some Years had been, neer the *Minories*,  
A 2 between

between that and *Goodman* *Es-fields* in the sad time of *London's* *Cholera*, by the terrible Sickness, 1665. She was very busie a Nurse keeping, or tending persons Visited with the Plague, and as 'tis supposed, got then enough to help maintain her self: for though she were from thence-forwards generally called Nurse, & pretended sometimes to take in Cloaths to Wash, yet she did not do any considerable matter of work, but lived a life somewhat extravagant and expensive for one of her condition; This man, on whom she committed this horrid murder, being the sixth that she had had.

She was Married to him somewhat above a year last past, who was a civil honest laborious person, by name *William Lilly-man*, and by profession a Cooper belonging to a Brew-house, a lusty comely man, and not above thirty years of age or thereabouts, which made her at first extreemly dote upon him, but being her self near threescore she was not a little tainted with the poison of jealousy, which often is the disturber of the discreetest marriages, and therefore might without matter of wonder prove the bane of this lascivious heart.

Leaving her controversies sometimes on that account (for which 'tis generally believ'd by their Neighbours she had indeed no occasion) till Satan taking the advantage of her being in one of these jealous moods (in which she used often to threaten she would do him a mischief) prevailed on her barbarously to imbrue her hands in his blood, and bring

bing her self by taking away his life to a shameful and untimely yet most just and deserved death. The manner and circumstances of which bloody fact were as follows, and so appeared to the court by the Evidence on the tryal, viz :

On Tuesday the — of June last, the said *William Lilly-man* coming home in the afternoon from work to the house where they lodg'd in Swan-Alley, leading out of the Minories into Goodmans Fields, and finding his wife absent, understood she was at an Ale-house hard by in Glifs-house-Yard at Nine-pins ; Whereupon having occasion to have his shoes mended he carryed them to a cobbler a friend and country-man of his whose stall was just by that house where his Wife was, and took with him a peice of cold mutton, and a dryed Mackerel, intending to eat his supper there, when he came to the Cobbler and had given him directions he asked him to go drink, which he consented to, promising to come very quickly, as soon as he had dispatcht a little jobb he was about, before *Lilly-man* went into the Ale-house he asked the Cobbler for a knife to cut his victuals, he having left his oven at home, who lent him a very sharp long one, which their trade comm only use to pare heels with ; as soon as he was come into the ale-house he sent into the yard for his wife, very lovingly desiring her to come and sup and drink with him ; as she was coming in a Servant-maid (unluckily as it prov'd in the consequence, but very innocently intending it only for j. it and merriment)

said to her : Ah Mistress *Lillyman* , little do you think that your husband and I have been together and that he gave me a bottle of Ale at your house, or words to that effect, and indeed there was little reason for her to think so, for in truth there was no such thing done, nor any thing like it.

However the woman according to the nature of jealousy, taking it in the worst sense , fell into an angry passion, possibly the sooner raised for that she was before elevated with drink, so that coming into the room where her Husband was, she was heard to say, *Do you send for me to supper, you Rascal* ; (or some other ill name) I will give you a Supper ; and presently afterwards being all alone with him (the Woman of the house being gone for a pot of drink, and the Maid for a Loaf for him) the said Elizabeth his Wife took up the aforesaid long knife which he had borrowed of the Cobler, and therewith stab'd him under the left papp, so that as the Surgeons afterwards testified, it pierced his very heart, and the Maid immediately returning he told her his Wife had stab'd him, and desired her to call in his countrey-man the Cobler ; she hearing him talk of being stab'd, thought at first he had been but in jest, but seeing him look ill, with his hand fast on his breast began to be afraid, and called the Cobler, but before he could get in, the wounded man was got up from his seat, and coming out met him, saying, Ah Countrey-man ! this wicked Woman my Wife has stab'd me with the knife which I borrowed

rowed of thee ; all this while his Wife stood by, and hearing this came up to him, and said, I stab thee Love ? why wilt thou say so ? I have not toucht thee ? and thereupon proffered to kiss him, but he with his hand putting her back said again : Ah wicked woman thou hast kill'd me : By this time, he fainting, the Cobler taking him in his arms had put him into one of the drinking rooms, and askt him where his hurt was, for as yet they saw it not ; Whereupon he pointed to his left, and said, Here, here my Wife hath kill'd me ; which was the last Words he was heard to utter in this world, for presently after he fainted quite away, and in short time dyed ; his Wife when she saw him so very bad would have made her escape and gone out at the back door, but neighbours stopt her and sent for a constable, who carried her before a justice of peace.

At her Examination there, she behaved her self very strangely, seeming altogether unconcerned at what she had done, and laughing at it : amongst many other her silly answers, this was one, *I wish my hands may never see my eyes, if I killed my husband*; the Magistrate gravely admonished her to be serious in so sad a case, but she took little notice of it, but stiffly denyed that she murdred him, however the person being then quite dead, she was committed to *Newgate* in order to her Tryal.

And accordingly at the last sessions held at the *Old Bayly* begining on the 7th. of this instant *July*, 1675. She was Arraigned for Petty Treason, for Killing her Husband : After the Endictment was read,

read, and she required to plead to it, she fell into a kind of raving, crying out, *she must see her Husband, and she would not plead till she had him there*: But this was but a faigned Artifice or piece of Dissimulation, and she was at last brought to plead in form: which she did, by saying, *Not Guilty*: The VVitnesses against her, were the before-mentioned Cobler, the VVoman of the house, and the Maid, at the sight of which last she fell into another passionate fit, calling her, many base, scurrilous names in open Court; The Evidence was plain, as you have heard in all Circumstances, and the Prisoner had nothing to say for her self, but impudent Denials of the Fact, and yet confessed that she had a wicked intention to have done the said Maid a Mischief at the same time when her Husband was Killed. So that the matter being evident, the Jury brought her in, *Guilty of the Endowment*: And accordingly she received the usual Sentence for persons of her Sex, in Cases of petty Treason, that is to say, *To be Buried until she be Dead*.

The first night after her Condemnation, she seemed scarce at all sensible of her condition, but on the next day, being the Lords day, she began to have some remorse, confessing then to some friends that came to visit her, that she had been a grievous sinner for many years, naming several particular sins that she had been guilty of; yet still denyed her self to have ever been guilty of Murder or Theft; nor would confess the killing of her husband; since that several Ministers have visited her, and have at last brought her to acknowledge the Fact, and now she seems exceeding Penitent for the same, being come to the place appointed for her execution, on *Towerhill*, on Monday the 19th, of July, instant.

FINIS.